

U.S. Is Willing to Include China in Talks

Backs U.N. Move for Disarming Goldberg Confines Our Participation To Preliminaries

By Milton Besser

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Nov. 23 (AP)—The United States declared its willingness today to enter into preliminary talks with Communist China and other key powers on a world disarmament conference. But it withheld a decision on attending the conference itself.

Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg disclosed the U.S. position just before the General Assembly's main Political Committee approved 91 to 0, with one abstention, an Asian-African resolution calling for a conference not later than 1967.

The United States joined with the Soviet Union and Britain in the yes vote. France abstained and Nationalist China declined to participate. France has declared that a conference would be of no avail unless it took up other issues involving world peace.

Up To Peking

If Peking would agree to join a small preparatory group it would be the first time that

the United States would sit down with the Chinese Communist in talks on disarmament.

As to the final U.S. decision on attending a world conference, this was understood to depend on whether Peking now demonstrates it will not use the conference as a forum for anti-U.S. propaganda, but display a desire for serious negotiations.

Goldberg endorsed a suggestion from Saudi Arabia that a small group should be asked to explore whether there was a constructive basis for holding a world conference.

U.S. Willingness Stated

"I wish to inform this Committee," he added, "that the United States would be willing to participate in a small, initial group to explore areas of agreement on disarmament questions as a preliminary step in the preparations for convening a world disarmament conference."

He said that there were well-known difficulties in establishing the group, not the least of which was that one of the proposed participants has declared it was not prepared to

See NATIONS, A7, Col. 4

Military men weigh strict censorship of U.S. news-men in Vietnam. Page A10

meet with it. He was referring to Communist China.

He suggested that the group include several countries which have major peaceful nuclear programs, as well as several others which have played leading roles in promoting a world disarmament conference.

Recalls Reservations

Goldberg recalled that William C. Foster, the chief U.S. disarmament negotiator, had already stated frankly to the Committee U.S. reservations about the use of holding a world conference under present circumstances.

"We maintain these reservations," Goldberg asserted. "But we also note . . . that the resolution now before us would, in effect, have us decide only in principle to convene a conference. The actual decision remains to be taken in

the light of the results of the consultations and preparations called for in this resolution."

The resolution urges necessary consultations with all countries for the purpose of establishing a widely representative preparatory committee to take appropriate steps for convening the conference not later than 1967.

It asks that all countries be kept informed of the results achieved by the preparatory committee.

It endorses the proposal of the meeting of non-aligned countries in Cairo in 1964 on the convening of a conference to which all countries would be invited.

No Reference to U.N.

To overcome objections from Peking, the resolution contains no specific reference to a U.N. role in setting up the conference. Peking has already

ruled out attendance under U.N. auspices as long as the U.N. door remains closed to it.

The U.S. suggestion for the small exploratory group was not contained in the resolution. Goldberg said this could be arranged in the course of consultations called for in the resolution.

He said it was clear that all members of the U.N. specialized agencies must be invited to a world conference, but that it remains to be de-

cided what other countries will get invitations.

A leading nonaligned diplomat predicted privately that a world disarmament conference would take place in Vienna in the spring of 1967. He said Austria had offered Vienna as the site and other countries generally had approved it.